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Mark Carrier Construction, TFMoran bring vision of boutique hotel to life

its own challenges, but as work was about to begin on The Grand at the Bedford Village Inn - the new boutique hotel adjacent to the iconic Bedford restaurant and inn - the project's general contractor faced something completely

Jack Carnevale, the owner of the Bedford Village Inn and the Grand at the Bedford Village Inn, had tasked Mark Carrier Construction to begin the project. In February of 2015, Mark Carrier unexpectedly passed away

"It was his business - he was the one in negotiation with Jack Carnevale." Mark's

very construction project presents business building custom homes for 25 years, but I ended up stepping in to run the company. The Grand was not contracted by that point in time, but everything was ready and everything was negotiated. Jack agreed to stay with us, but it was really my brother who pulled the design/build together."

Construction began in the spring at the site, which sits directly behind the original inn. And while the site was bare, with no structures Mark Carrier Construction Inc. (MCCI,) had to prepare by dealing with a substantial amount of ledge.

"We spent eight weeks blasting 33,000 yards of ledge," Carrier says. "And once brother. Don Carrier, says, "I had my own we completed the blasting, it was a chal-





line along with fitting in the built-in pool. patio and landscaping."

ly-equipped fitness facility steps out onto a patio next to the saltwater pool, which all surrounded by sweeping natural, lush

"Jack Carnevale was very hands-on," Carrier says, "One of the first times that I saw him at the Bedford Village Inn. he all the landscaping for the back yard gardens and patio."

That hands-on approach made planning the three-story, 50-room, Dutch Colonial style boutique hotel surprisingly problem-

"Jack was very animated when I first met wheel. We wanted to honor history and >

lenge to retain the slope of the property him," says Architect John Jordan of John S. Jordan Design, of Canterbury, "He has a great way of describing his vision. I took Adding those amenities were challeng- it all in - I try my best to listen to what the ing, he says, but in the end worth it. A ful- customer is trying to achieve and respond accordingly. It was a matter of experience, and we had the good fortune of hitting it is heated year-round, and the hot tub. It's off well. Personalities are very important in building business relationships."

Jordan says he took Carnevale's vision back to his office and began researching shingle-style projects and historic. grand hotels. He distilled those examples was on his hands and knees gardening. As to create plans for a building that would we were finishing the Grand, Jack laid out be in that style, while making the most of modern materials and maintenance-free exterior

"It's a classic example of a grand hotel." Jordan says. "You can see the historic precedence we were hoping to allude to We weren't going to try to re-invent the







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what Jack had built on-site already with the Bedford Village Inn, and expand on to begin designing and decorating the his success and philosophies in making that a successful business venture."

mix of classic New England and modern amenities, LED lighting and the complimentary high-speed, fiber optic Wi-Fi never seems out of place next to the fieldstone fireplace in the comfortable lobby bar. A business center with hightech appointments sits just down the hall from a classic library room, stuffed with books and couches.

Carrier, MCCI Project Manager Mark Jobin, Carnevale and his wife, Andrea, met completed all the civil and structural en-

weekly before the first shovel was turned through completion. When it came time interior, Jordan worked closely with Carnevale to achieve a very specific look the

"Early on we were cutting out cardboard furniture and beds and moving things around the suites - while we were still doing the rough walls and before we did any wiring or lighting," Carrier says, "He's a very visual person. He likes to see his own artwork and furnishings which

Project Engineers TFMoran, of Bedford,

gineering, land surveying and landscape architecture - another element that Carnevale worked closely on.

"Jack is hands-on with everything," TFMoran Chief Operating Officer Dylan Cruess says. "And it went very well because he is hands-on. He's part of every decision, so there are no surprises."

Cruess says dealing with the large amount of ledge may have been challenging, but a tiered parking solution mitigated those challenges. With no wetland the placement of things. He purchased issues or unusual elements, Cruess says the project went largely as anticipated.

"The architect, John Jordan, did a window seats on the fourth level as be- longer-term view." WIBR

ing a notable element in the structure, "It was complex to have those cantilevered over the exterior wall.

The hotel opened officially in June, with a number of top-notch appointments, including king-size four poster beds custom made by Noir; custom upholstered furnishings by Company C; Carrera Marble bathrooms with soaking tubs; charging and connectivity for tablets, laptops and phones; and elegant fireplaces in many rooms and large suites - including the 850-square-foot Tower Suite.

"We're just proud to have been a part of it because Jack [Carnevale] does it beautiful building," Cruess says, citing right," Cruess says, "It's a credit to his



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